

CHERNOBYL - A YEAR LATER

A year after the Chernobyl nuclear accident, frightening results are becoming apparent which reach further than any previous estimates.

The birthrate for mongoloid babies in Berlin has risen by five times the normal rate. Professor Karl Sperling, head of the Human Genetics Institute in West Berlin, says that since January at least ten mongoloid babies have been born. The German findings have shocked the medical world, as it has always been claimed that levels of radiation as 'low' as those experienced in Berlin after Chernobyl could not cause such a high birth defect rate.

Birth defects in Europe are particularly well-documented and never before has anything like this been witnessed. Now 28,000 birth centres in Germany are compiling data which will be released shortly.

All the deformed babies were conceived three weeks after the Chernobyl fire started. By February the mongoloid birth rate was back to normal, but there is a fear that the radioactive cloud that spread across Europe could have also increased the incidence of leukaemia in children; this will only show up in the years ahead.

In Munich, Dr Klaus Waldemaier of the Genetic Diagnosis Laboratory has found that the general German rate of mongolism doubled in January. The suspicion is that throughout Europe similar findings to the Germans' will become apparent in studies to be completed soon.

Humans have not been the only ones to suffer. A reported tripling in the incidence of dead and newborn calves has come to light throughout the region. Veterinarians have reported various bizarre deformities such as calves being stillborn without heads, with two heads, a calf with a head like a pig, calves without any bones and with missing legs. All these deformities have appeared in the past six months.

Many experts believe that these are just the first signs of the terrible effects the Chernobyl disaster will have on Europe. The official Soviet death toll from Chernobyl stands at 34, but a dissident Soviet physicist has recently told a Washington conference that 15,000 people



died in the five months following the nuclear accident.

Reports have differed widely, with some stating that thousands died in hospitals but were recorded as discharged or as not needing treatment. The predictions for forthcoming deaths from cancer over the coming decades vary as well; some say thousands will die, others up to a million.

Some Australian Ramifications

In April, NSW Government officers seized 3.5 tonnes of herbs and spices which contained radiation at sixty times the recommended safety limit.

350 bags of the Chernobyl-contaminated herbs, imported from Turkey, were seized. Concentrations of lethal isotopes caesium 137 and caesium 134 were found in each of the 10kg bags.

The Australian Government Analytical Laboratory had recommended that the importer dilute the radioactive plant matter with 'clean' herbs to 'reduce' the level of radioactivity!

The NSW Health Department was tipped off by an activist with the People Against Food Irradiation (PAFI) and radioactivity tests were made on the herbs; results showed the level to be 1,491 becquerels per kilogram; the permissible amount is 30-50 becquerels per kilo.

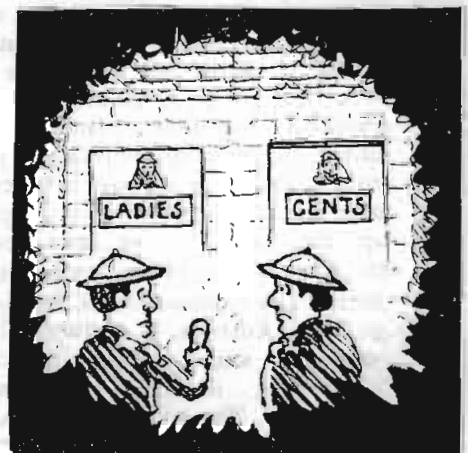
Now three of the four reactors at the Chernobyl site have been put back on line and the Number Four reactor which spewed radioactive debris around much of the world has been capped with a massive pile of concrete. A fifth reactor has been started and a sixth will follow.

SECRET PYRAMID TUNNELS

Two separate teams of investigators have discovered secret chambers within the Great Pyramid of Cheops at Giza.

Japanese experts using reflected electromagnetic waves to comb the c.4,600 year old edifice have found a new cavity, suspected to be a secret chamber, and a tunnel running beneath the pyramid possibly linking it to the Sphinx. The cavity is behind 2-metre thick stone blocks in a passageway leading to the "Queen's burial chamber".

Two French architects are also searching for the mummy of Cheops, after drilling holes into the limestone revealed the presence of unsuspected chambers.



Dark yellow sand with a high level of heavy minerals and radioactive material (which had been carried from a site five kilometres away) was found to be filling a cavity. Two drills broke during the last two weeks of experiments when they struck stone much harder than expected. Using a gravimeter to measure the specific gravity inside the chambers, the Frenchmen detected cavities beyond the drillholes.

"The curve of the gravimeter shows something very close, no further than three metres," said Mr Jean-Patrice Goidin.

"We are very close now. We see a wall and something like a door and a crack in the wall, too."

They contend they may have at last discovered a secret burial chamber within the 138 metre high pyramid (the largest on the earth's surface) and that the previously discovered damaged sarcophagus and chamber may have been built to throw tomb robbers off the scent.

"We know there is something strange behind this wall," said the technical chief, Mr Jacques Montlucon.

The team had hoped to drill up to eight holes in their first experiments, but were allowed three by the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation. An Antiquities spokesperson, Mr Fattah Sabbahi, said that Egypt wished to avoid damaging the pyramid.

"We have to analyse the best way to get into the cavities," he said.

LASER LEAP

The Soviet Union has inflicted "battlefield casualties" on ground targets and aircraft during military actions in Afghanistan, according to a US Defence Department report by Caspar Weinberger.

Lasers are swiftly showing their power as offensive weapons, with rifle and handgun sized lasers beginning to appear as well.



The Soviets have also put at least three orbiting US surveillance satellites out of action using a highly advanced ground-to-space laser cannon, according to a report in Bild, a West German newspaper which cited top-secret US and NATO information.

A prototype of the laser cannon has been built at Sarychaganak in Kazakhstan, and the report said that 10,000 Soviet engineers and scientists were engaged in high-energy laser missile defence systems in 12 research centres.



AIDS PROPAGANDA WAR

In response to widespread media reports that AIDS was accidentally created in Pentagon biological warfare experiments, United States officials claim a Soviet disinformation campaign is responsible for the story being carried worldwide.

The State Department is anxious to forestall 'rumours' that AIDS was created in a 'secret' army lab at Fort Dietrich, Maryland. They claim the story was invented and deliberately spread by the Soviet Union. However, a British virus expert, Dr John Seale, is previously on record as convinced that the virus was released when a laboratory experiment went disastrously wrong in the US.

Dr Seale, a respected Harley Street specialist, claims there has been a worldwide conspiracy of silence to keep the truth from the public. He has teamed up with American doctor Robert Strecker and East German professor Jacob Segal, who all reject the 'monkey bites man' theory of AIDS origins.

"I am sure AIDS was created in the laboratory and I wrote this in a letter to the journal of the Royal Society of Medicine in August," said Dr Seale. "Thousands of biologists all over the world have seen my August letter yet there has not been a single letter saying it was rubbish."

He originally made his claim after discovering links between AIDS and the lethal VISNA virus which attacks sheep. He says the only difference between the two viruses is that AIDS has an extra gene, which could have "quite easily" been inserted during experiments, deliberately or by mistake.

US State Department officials have been strenuously denying that the "Russian disinformation campaign" has any basis in fact.

Biological weapons were banned by a 100-nation treaty in 1972; however, after an environmental group filed a lawsuit in Washington, the Pentagon admitted recently that in 1981 it had "lost" several litres of the toxic chikungunya virus, enough to infect the entire world many times over. The virus is "a disease of explosive potential as either a biological warfare agent or a natural disease threat," according to a Pentagon document (gained via Freedom of Information). But the Pentagon told Congress that the missing virus, which disappeared from a refrigerator in an unguarded laboratory at Fort Dietrich, Maryland, posed no danger to the public.

Dr Jeremy Rifkin, president of the Foundation on Economic Trends (which filed the suit against the Pentagon) told reporters;

"The lack of security at Fort Dietrich and other military, university and commercial laboratories poses a dangerous public health threat." He said the army was experimenting with a number of highly dangerous germs including yellow fever, anthrax, plague and botulism, and the threat of terrorists with these weapons was ever-present.

The US "formally renounced" biological warfare weapons in 1969.



NEW TOP OF THE WORLD

Make way Mount Everest: another Himalayan mountain may be taller. New US satellite measuring techniques indicate that Everest is higher than the official 8,847 metres, but not as high as nearby peak K-2, which may be about ten metres higher according to a Washington University scientist.

SOVIETS OFFER NUCLEAR SECRET

The Soviet Union has discovered a way to test nuclear weapons without exploding them and has offered the secret to Washington, a senior Kremlin official said in February.

"We think that we have another method to check on our nuclear arsenal," said Mr Gennady Gerasimov, head of the Foreign Ministry's information department. He also noted that the Soviets were free to resume nuclear testing as a result of the US continuing with nuclear testing in Nevada. Moscow stopped all nuclear test explosions 18 months earlier in a self-imposed moratorium which America declined to join because, it said, Russia was winning the arms race.

Asked if renewed Russian testing would ensure that their nuclear stockpiles worked, Mr Gerasimov said;

"We even said that if the United States cites this particular reason (checking stockpiles) for their testing, we are ready to give them all our secrets - *how we manage to test our nuclear weapons without actually having nuclear explosions.*"

ARCTIC MYSTERY CLOUDS

Strange clouds have been rising in inexplicably huge, icy plumes over the Soviet Union's Arctic coastline for several years.

The clouds are similar in appearance to volcanic plumes and disappear within a few hours of their mysterious arrival, baffling Western experts. Many periodically bloom over Novaya Zemlya, a Soviet island long used for Arctic nuclear tests, but scientists can find no correlation between their appearances and Soviet weapons' tests (which are usually detected seismically). There is no volcanic activity in the area.

The plumes grow to 300 km in length and are larger than could be produced by any detectable nuclear explosion. They were first spotted by scientists from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in 1984, who speculate that we may be witnessing Soviet research into nuclear winter effects or "weather modification" experiments.



NUCLEAR ANTARCTIC THREAT

South Africa has decided to build an airstrip on Marion Island, 2,000km south-east of Cape Town in a plan claimed in Britain to be designed to prepare the site for testing nuclear missiles in the Antarctic.

"South Africa probably exploded a nuclear test device in the area in 1979 and the airstrip is very likely to have military implications," said Mr Frank Barnaby, a British nuclear expert and former director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

The airstrip will be large enough to handle C-130 Hercules transport planes and is claimed by South Africa to be important for the well-being of 24 scientists stationed on Marion Island and as a site for search and rescue operations. The scientific station itself was surprised by the news and deemed the airstrip unnecessary. Experts doubt the runway will be used for civil purposes.



Both South African and Israeli military officers have visited the island over the past two years, fuelling speculation about Israeli - South African nuclear weapons co-operation. (Mordechai Vanunu, the Israeli nuclear technician who is on trial in Jerusalem, claims that Israeli nuclear scientists regularly visit South Africa).

Nexus New Times

A Foreign Affairs Department spokesman said Australia would be "gravely concerned" if South Africa planned Antarctic nuclear tests.

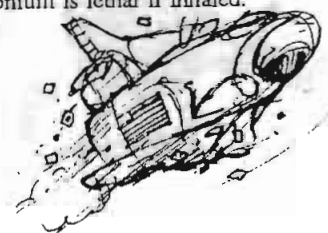
South Africa, which has not ratified the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty, is reported to be able to produce two nuclear bombs each year at a 'secret' nuclear plant at Pelindaba near Pretoria, which, unlike the country's other three reactors, is out of bounds to International Atomic Energy Agency inspectors.

Despite satellite observations to the contrary, South Africa neither confirms nor denies it detonated a test device in 1979 but has denied having nuclear weapons. The Israelis deny that they have nuclear weapons as well, but experts clarify that Israel is technically telling the truth in that their weapons are not fully assembled.

Assembling the weapons would take a few minutes.

WHAT GOES UP (1)

The good news about the Challenger disaster is that the next space shuttle flight was a military project designed to carry, among other things, forty pounds (18kg) of plutonium into orbit for use in orbital x-ray lasers (generated by nuclear detonation in a spherical screen with a 'gun barrel' pointing at the target). These contravene the Space Weapons treaty of the early 1960s. One millionth of one gram of plutonium is lethal if inhaled.



WHAT GOES UP (2)

The US Department of Energy has put forward a proposal costing \$70 million in 1987 for a development programme for mini-space reactors, making possible the beginnings of America's Space Defence Initiative.

Russia already has small uranium-235 reactors in space (one crashed in Canada in 1978) and 40 'hot' nuclear power generators in near-Earth orbit; at least 4 have ruptured and contaminated the atmosphere - a failure rate of 1 in 10, not one in 10 million as manufacturers claim. In the '60s a US orbital Snap-9A reactor dumped several kilos of plutonium into the atmosphere.

The latest uranium-fuelled Snap-10 space fission reactor was considered a success because it functioned for 43 days in orbit before a component failure. Most of these satellites have an orbital decay period of a minimum of only five to ten years.



WELCOME TO OUR STORE...

In a controversial move aimed at slashing shoplifting losses, a revolutionary British development is making its appearance in stores throughout Australia.

The new system is known as Reinforcement Messaging (RM). It prevents theft by influencing the behavior of shoppers and staff on a subconscious level and consists of a sophisticated computer-controlled public address system which monitors ambient noise levels in order to broadcast messages at precisely the threshold of human hearing.

A typical message would be "Welcome to our store. Be honest - do not steal." Shoppers absorb the words unconsciously and act accordingly. The system's developers claim it is capable of reducing theft by 30% or more.

Subliminal Assistance Limited, the UK developers, say that RM simply reinforces "socially acceptable values and objectives". Shoplifters cost retailers in excess of \$1 million a day.



The Department of Consumer Affairs has drawn up a code which no longer allows shopkeepers to search customers' handbags; but large or open bags may be searched. Employers will not be able to touch bags or their contents.

A shopper can refuse a search but may be detained until the police arrive. The innocent shopper can then sue for false arrest. The code has been put into effect for a six month trial ending in May.

HUMUNGOUS BUNNIES

With no public debate on environmental consequences, the State Government has licenced a private company, Tandou Pty Ltd, to breed rabbits four times the size of normal wild rabbits.

These huge white rabbits, which weigh 10kg after 8 weeks growth, will be bred in Australia's first high security rabbit concentration camp. Bred to be resistant to Pasteurella [a fatal respiratory disease] the rabbits were also widely reported to be innoculated against myxomatosis. However, R.W. Smith, a spokesman for Tandou, has subsequently denied they will be given immunity to myxomatosis. He said the license forbade them from immunising their rabbits. The consequences of myxomatosis-immune wild rabbits to Australia's farm production and environment would be catastrophic, heralding the return of huge rabbit plagues. The C.S.I.R.O. spent half a century developing myxomatosis as a means to control feral rabbits.

Prison-like conditions will be essential to prevent myxomatosis spreading to the farmed rabbit population through either direct contact or via insects such as mosquitoes.

The scheme's proponents judge the farmed rabbit completely different in taste and texture to wild rabbit. A mature giant rabbit would be worth about \$1,000 and they will probably be sold as "fryers".

The breeding project will start at Broken Hill this year with a 24-rabbit pilot farm.

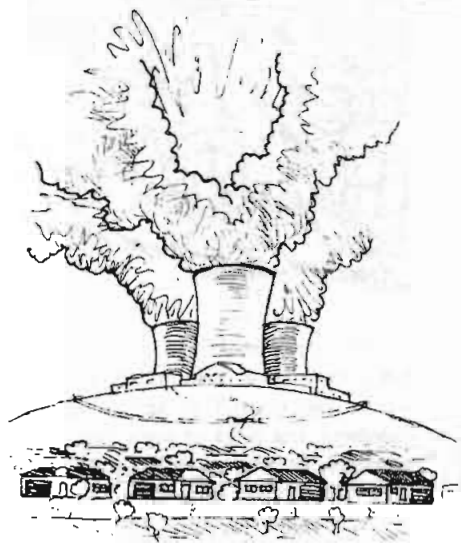
Mr John White, [NSW Farmer's Association] said: "The rabbit has done more damage to Australian native

fauna and flora than any other single pest. We are not prepared to take such a risk just to establish some new rabbit farm that the country simply doesn't need or want."

Ms Suzi Krawcyk [Pres. of Animal Liberation] said caged, farmed rabbits in the US suffered from a high mortality rate and severe behavioural disorders.

Another rabbit Production Unit is planned for Darwin where a Sydney businessman intends to open a \$2 million, 480,000 rabbit operation.





LUCAS HEIGHTS HIGHER

The recent fire at suburban Lucas Heights Reactor in Sydney has released yet more radioactivity into Sydney's environment. Their "Hot Box", used for the actual handling of radioactive isotopes, had another fire and contaminated four workers. The spill was "minor" according to the Lucas Heights P.R. Unit and a good test for new emergency procedures, which had forty firefighters and a special chemicals team called in.

Lucas Heights has had literally thousands of 'incidents' over the past decade, and housing is encroaching ever more quickly on the reactor and the waterways which surround it.

SHOCK HORROR LINKS

Electro-magnetic fields put out by powerlines can be responsible for high incidences of childhood cancer, according to a \$US750,000 detailed study carried out at the Universities of North Carolina and Colorado. The Washington State Health Department found high rates of leukemia among workers in power stations, aluminium plants (which use enormous amounts of electricity), power and telephone linesmen.

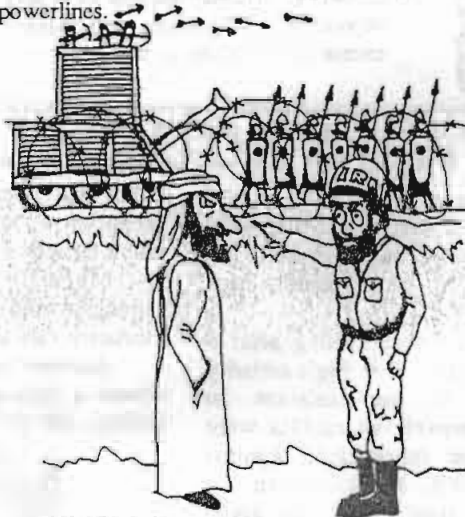
A Melbourne inner urban planning group is using the findings in its fight against the construction of a proposed 220-kV, eight-km long powerline which would

pass near two primary schools and over Richmond High School.

Furthermore, low-intensity microwave radiation (ie microwave ovens and TV transmitters) has been linked to higher cancer rates and adrenal gland and endocrine system changes in laboratory rats.

The study at Washington University exposed rats to less than half of the lowest allowable level of radiation emission for microwave ovens for up to 25 months. They found that 16% of exposed rats developed malignant tumours; four times the cancer rate of control rats which were not exposed. More than half of the tumours involved the endocrine system, affecting the thyroid, pituitary and adrenal glands.

Environmental groups in Victoria and NSW are pressuring State Governments to investigate health risks from high voltage powerlines.



THE IRAQIS HAVE GONE MAD!

BABYLON REBUILT

In the midst of the greatest war in its history, Iraq is rebuilding the ancient ruined city of Babylon.

Ten million bricks have been used in the reconstruction of the Babylon of Nebuchadnezzar who reigned from 605 to 563BC, when the city had a million inhabitants. Already completed are the vast Processional Way, Nebuchadnezzar's throne room, temples and a 4,000-seat amphitheatre. The project will climax with a September festival at Babylon.

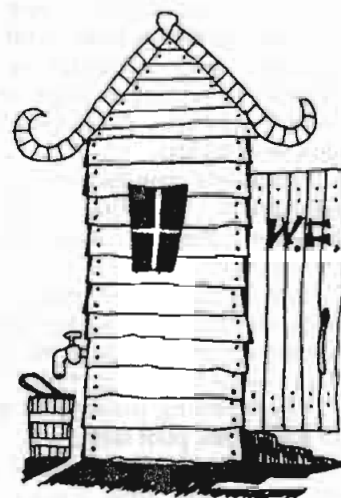
For centuries locals have been stealing the original city bricks, leaving little but rubble mounds and holes in the ground to build from; the Tower of Babel is yet to be rebuilt.

CITY SEWAGE FERTILIZER

Every day, Sydney produces 115 tonnes of dried sewage sludge which must be anaerobically 'digested', buried or incinerated. Following a lead provided in Adelaide by the producers of a new compost known as 'Orgo-Natural' (made of converted Adelaide sewage), the NSW Water Board is conducting trials at two sewage treatment plants.

The Water Board is already selling 300 tonnes of composted sludge a month to landscapers and intend to increase this to 1500 tonnes per month pending Health Department studies.

The only criticism of this example of recycling comes from environmentalists and scientists concerned with the heavy-metals content of the sewage; our sewage systems are the seagoing transportation systems of uncounted amounts of industrial and domestic by-products including dangerous heavy metals, chemicals and even radioactive isotopes. Each year the water board dumps 10 tonnes of cadmium, 19 tonnes of organochlorines, 38 tonnes of lead, 190 tonnes of cyanide, 206 tonnes of zinc into the ocean. The compost would not be safe to use with edible crops and would raise chemical and metal levels in the soil. Although 'Orgo Natural' is safe biologically, it is not organic. This is one reason why 'Orgo-Natural' is not yet commercially available in bulk.



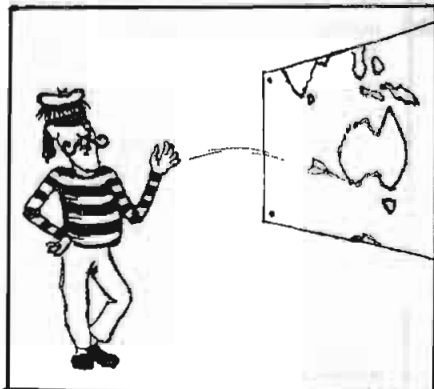
FRANCE NEEDS NEW ISLAND TO DESTROY

France is about to leave Mururoa Atoll for sunnier shores. The world's most nuclear nation is looking for a new test site, either at Fangataufa Atoll, 25 nautical miles from Mururoa or in the sub-Antarctic Kerguelen Islands, 3400km south-west of Western Australia. This is not because of any political or environmental outcry, but because Mururoa is breaking up and 'unsafe' for further nuclear tests after 22 years of nuclear explosions.

If France relocates to the southern Indian Ocean highly toxic nuclear debris would be carried to Australia. The Kerguelens are a 300-island archipelago sitting astride the 'Roaring Forties' wind currents. They are noted for their prolific wildlife and are volcanic, containing hot springs. There is a French research station on the largest island, called Desolation, which is partly covered by snowfields and glaciers; France has occupied the islands since 1949.

According to Mr Ted Phillips, regional director of the Tasmanian Bureau of Meteorology, toxic radioactive debris could be carried to Western Australia within 24 hours and Tasmania in 36, even from leaky underground tests on the Kerguelens. They would precipitate over the southern half of the continent in concentrated form, while underwater leaks would lead to radioactivity being brought to Western Australia on predominant tides.

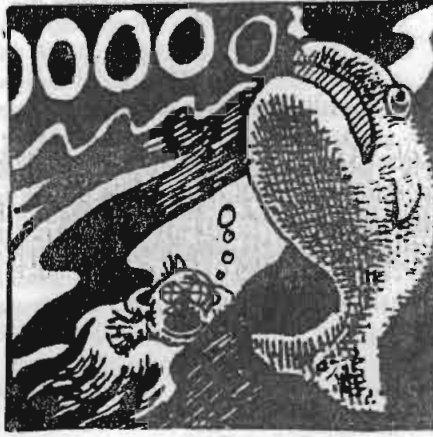
"France will abandon Mururoa perhaps in the next few months or 1988, because it is so leaky and contaminated," said Dr Abraham Behar, biophysics professor at the Curie Institute at the University of Paris. "It will be an ideal opportunity for the French people to make a stand against further nuclear testing," he said. France tested smaller (neutron) bombs on the atoll last year as they caused less damage.



Dr Michael O'Sullivan, an Auckland engineering professor, told the inaugural Asian-Pacific symposium of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (the group which won the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize) in February that serious radioactivity with a half-life of 4,000 years would leak into the ocean from the atoll's lagoon within 10 to 100 years. He said Mururoa was the "worst possible nuclear test site in the world" averaging less than 2.5 metres above sea level. He said it was suitable because it was "just about as far away from France as you could get."

Dr Tilman Ruff of the Fairfield Infectious Diseases Hospital in Melbourne also told the symposium that a mystery fish poison called ciguatera is linked to Pacific nuclear tests. The disease, which is spreading through the Pacific, is produced in fish which eat a type of plankton and passes harmlessly up the food chain until eaten by humans. It can then lead to a slow, agonising death, attacking the nervous, cardiac and muscular systems.

France has detonated 123 bombs in the Pacific since 1966.

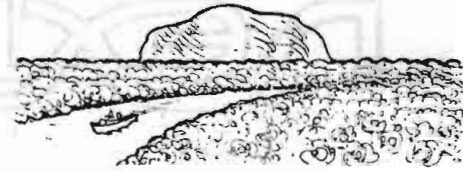


WHALES SING IN STRINE

Southern Humpback Whales, whose numbers are markedly increasing since the whaling moratorium, sing in a different 'dialect' in Western Australian waters to their East Coast cousins as they migrate up and down the coast each year.

Their song is an endlessly repeated, incredibly complex sequence lasting about ten minutes which can be heard at least 20km away. The song evolves gradually year by year and is sung by all members of a migrating group.

The number of humpbacks in eastern Oz waters doubled in the last decade after the humpback was previously hunted to near extinction.



SAVE WATER - DUST THE DESERT

A revolutionary Australian discovery can save drought-stricken crops and could pave the way to the farming of deserts.

Colin Anderton, a former cabinet maker from Perth, accidentally discovered last May that by combining two types of moisture retention soils he could cut watering requirements by two-thirds, prevent wind erosion and stop surface soils from being completely leached of water and becoming desert.

The non-toxic soil treatment, marketed as *Aqua-Save*, is ploughed in to existing cropland. It originates in Western Australia where a unique combination of soils were laid down in a vast area millions of years ago.

"Because *Aqua-Save* is non-toxic it can be used in any agricultural situation for private or commercial gardens and in light soils for wheat farming. And it cannot damage the environment in any way", says Mr Anderton.

"If sand where nothing has grown for centuries is treated with *Aqua-Save*, trees and other forms of vegetation could be grown.

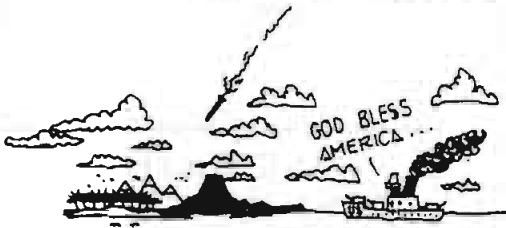
"I will shortly be germinating 1300 hectares of industrial dust hills around Kalgoolie with a by-product of *Aqua-Save* which I've called *Dustoff* and this will stop the dust blowing constantly through the town."

If a teaspoon of *Aqua-Save* is tipped into a glass of water, the glass can be inverted without the water spilling; although transformed to a jelly-like substance within a few minutes, the water is readily usable by plants and still feels wet.

He has been given \$2 million backing to develop the project by a Perth industrial entrepreneur. The Department of Agriculture has promised all the support he needs and inquiries have poured in from the US, Asia and the Middle East.

There is no other area in the world where the soils which make up *Aqua-Save* are known to exist, and Mr Anderton is not disclosing the location of his find.

NEXUS NEWS



SOMETIMES

I GET VERY PEEVED WITH REALITY.

NEW CLEAR DAYS

If there was a nuclear warship accident in an Australian port, the United States would throw a military security cordon around the area excluding all non-US personnel. The Australian government could lose all control of events, according to documents obtained under US Freedom of Information laws.

The Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs Investigation into nuclear vessels' safety procedures in Australian ports has been taking submissions on the subject. They have heard an extraordinary series of reports revealing potentially disastrous implications stemming from the visits of nuclear ships to our shores.

The Atomic Energy Commission told the Senate committee that they had insufficient knowledge to monitor nuclear-armed warships for radiation leaks.

"There is no guarantee that they [the US Navy] would tell us if there was an accident or a leak of radioactive material," former RAN Command Operations Officer, Michael Lynch told the Committee. The officer responsible for all US nuclear vessel visits to Western Australia, he said the authorities had "absolutely no plan, procedure or organisation" for dealing with a nuclear leak and that an evacuation plan would be implemented for security, not environmental reasons.

Ms Faith Doherty, Greenpeace nuclear disarmament coordinator, described a series of US Navy exercises called NUWAX;

"During the exercises, a one-kilometre area around a nuclear weapons accident is sealed off completely and designated 'American sovereign soil', with no access to the public, the media or even representatives of the Government on whose territory the accident occurs".

A little-known fact is that nuclear powered ships were banned from Sydney harbour in 1984 by Premier Wran; they are still officially banned today.

Under Federal Government policy nuclear armed or powered ships were banned from 1970 to 1976. In a leaked 1978 confidential report to the (then) Minister for Planning and the Environment which it was stated that people would need to be evacuated from the vicinity of a nuclear accident within two hours. Ms Doherty said there had been no practice evacuation procedures in Sydney since the report was published almost a decade ago. Nuclear-powered ships have entered Sydney Harbour on numerous occasions in the past three years.

A US scientist, Professor Jackson Davis, told the Senate Investigation that the Australian Government should prepare a plan to clear downtown Sydney in one to two hours. He said a US warship accident in Sydney could kill up to 11,000 people in a 55km radius by passive radioactive contamination. There would be more deaths without effective evacuation and decontamination procedures. He said every ventilated building would have to be decontaminated inside and out and all cars, streets and all external surfaces would have to be rigorously cleaned and monitored. Australia should press for a clear statement of US responsibility in the event of an accident as the cleanup bill would cost \$220 billion, bankrupting the country at a stroke.

Professor Davis, one of 12 scientists attached to the Nuclear Policy Program at the University of California, described two nuclear accident scenarios;

If a nuclear weapon was accidentally incinerated in Sydney Harbour, likely wind patterns would carry a radioactive cloud containing plutonium-239 (at levels up to 10,000 times the US safety limit) westward over downtown Sydney. Davis estimates that the number of deaths from cancers and genetic defects would range up to 11,041 depending on atmospheric conditions. Greatest effects would be felt within 5km of the accident and in the suburbs under the path of the cloud, up to 55km away. In the case of a nuclear reactor accident, up to 914 people would be instant casualties.

Professor Davis claimed that the US Navy has not released the data necessary to evaluate the risks of shipboard fires or reactor accidents. Without this information, "acceptance by Australia of port visits by nuclear-capable or nuclear-powered vessels is equivalent to acceptance of an incalculable risk".

A special advisor to the Defence Department, Mr Ross Thomas, gave evidence to the Committee that visiting foreign warships disarm their nuclear weapons only a few kilometres from Australian ports and cities. In Sydney, nuclear weapons are still armed within up to two miles of the harbour.



MIND OVER MATTER

Life energy transmitted by a Chinese master of an ancient breathing method has been shown to alter the molecular structure of water and three other liquids.

The official China Daily reported that "qigong", a healing art used to treat hypertension, gastric ulcers, cancers and other diseases which uses qi (chi/ki), or life energy, was proven by laser technology to alter the fluids.

NEW CLUB MEMBERS?

Pakistan has entered the nuclear club along with Israel. The head of Pakistan's nuclear program admitted that they could produce nuclear weapons; India's military budget was promptly increased by 40%. India is developing an inter-continental ballistic missile and will "keep its options open".

Meanwhile, Argentina and Iran are on the verge of a deal to collaborate on nuclear power development.

Last December negotiations began for Argentina to help complete long-delayed construction of the Bushir 1 power station in Southern Iran, which was begun before the Shah was ousted. Iran would also be aided by the Kraftwerke Union (KWU) company of West Germany.

TAKE THEIR LAND AND JAIL THEM

Surveys have consistently shown that Aboriginal people are jailed at least ten times more often than other Australians, a fact often pointed out by the Australian Institute of Criminology. In Western Australia Aboriginal imprisonment stands at 20 times the average rate, while the Northern Territory's jails hold a greater proportion of the total population than those of any other Western nation except South Africa.

In South Australia in 1982 it was found that Aboriginal people were four times as likely to receive jail sentences than their white counterparts. In the same year a survey found that Aboriginal children in NSW accounted for 18% of prisoners in NSW corrective institutions while comprising only 1.5% of the population. Little has improved since then concerning this injustice in our own country.



BIRTH PROCESSED

Caesarian deliveries have increased by 300% in 20 years and doctors needlessly intervene in births far too often in Australia, according to a recent study. 23% of women have Caesarian hospital deliveries and forceps are used in 48% of births. Episiotomies (genital surgery in childbirth) occur in 81% of deliveries.

The study by Dr Meg Pryke, senior lecturer at Cumberland College of Health Studies, showed that epidural drip anaesthetics are used 52% of the time, resulting in highly stressed infants. Babies were studied for 28 days after birth; it was found that epidural caesarian babies were the most heavily stressed and showed the poorest progress.

ULTRALIGHT PILOT PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE

After illegally flying over Roxby Downs uranium mine in his motorised hang-glider "Imagine" and two successful 'bombings' of nuclear warships in Sydney Harbour, avocado farmer and peace campaigner Dean Jefferys finally came to grief in court.

In early March he was jailed for refusing to pay \$4,200 in fines rising from the yellow dye-bombing in March 1985 of the USS John Buchanan in Sydney Harbour.

During his two passes in Imagine over the USS Buchanan (which was carrying nuclear depth-charges), Dean was chased by five helicopters, a police boat and Navy personnel before surrendering at South Head Naval Base.

Charged with flying an ultra light aircraft in restricted airspace without written permission, he was also fined \$1,500 for dropping a wreath and a videotape onto the deck of the British warship HMS Illustrious on October 13th 1986.

Dean Jefferys gained an extra twenty days imprisonment for refusing to pay the second fine, telling the magistrate he felt he had a moral duty to arouse media attention to the likelihood of a nuclear accident when foreign warships visit Sydney.

A one hour video of Dean's 1984 Peace Flight including music & statements by Peter Garrett, Midnight Oil and John Lennon and a half hour video about the Daintree forest are available from Dean for \$20: Dean Jefferys, P.O. Bowraville NSW, 2449.



Nexus New Times

DAIRY DANGER

Milk in eastern Australia is dangerous to drink.

Nearly one fifth of all dairy products sold in NSW are below the quality standards of the Commonwealth Department of Primary Industry, according to the NSW Dairy Corporation.

Furthermore, 4.5% of milk tested throughout the State contains residual levels of organochlorine pesticide (a known carcinogen and one of the most dangerous pesticides in use), which has been banned in many Western countries.

The average milkshake or smoothy bought in NSW is likely to be "frequently heavily contaminated" due to the fact that milk bars usually use bulk milk which has been blended from various areas.

"We are happy we can give the consuming public in NSW an assurance that to the best of our resources there will be no pathological organisms in milk products sold," said the Dairy Corporation's general manager, Mr Bob Whan. However, organochlorines are not organisms at all and 17% of milk in the State is presently full of unsafe levels of bacteria and/or chemicals.



BLACK HOLE SWALLOWS STAR

Astronomers at Ohio State University have witnessed the death of a star. At the nucleus of galaxy NGC5548, Bradley Petersen and Gary Ferland observed the star as it was absorbed by a black hole.

"We think our star has wandered too close," said Mr Petersen. "It is being shredded."

Scientists have never seen the phenomenon before and can use the data in studying the formation of the universe.

"It takes us back to the era of formation," Mr Petersen explained. We want to find out why galaxies have these centres - and if it is a common phenomenon".